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OCCURRENCE OF PRECIPITATION ON CHANGE OF WIND TO NORTH WITH APPROACH OF A HIGH BAROMETER.

The following letter from Mr. Douglas F. Manning, of Alexandria Bay, N. Y., gives an interesting and plausible theory regarding the above:

DEAR SIR: Am sending you these few observations which I have taken concerning the cause of rain setting in soon after the wind changes to northerly with the approach of a "high." It seems very evident, especially from my observations on July 18, 1912, that the rain comes from the southerly winds which are lifted by the advancing cold or cool air which forms a wedge under the warm air.

On the above-mentioned date the day was clear with moderately warm south to southwest winds and slowly falling barometer. About 2 p. m., I noticed a cloudiness low down in the north, which reached overhead by 6 p. m., with the arrival of cool northerly winds. Strange to say these clouds were coming from the south and on close observation could be seen forming with the advancing north wind. They were alto-cumulus and cumulo-stratus, and as they moved northward became heavier and formed a leaden, uniform cloud sheet, from which rain began to fall in an hour or so. It rained steadily during the night with the upper clouds coming from the south, although fair weather prevailed in front of the advancing north wind, all of which seemed to show that the southerly winds were being lifted up by this wedge of cold air, and by expansion soon became cloudy and yielded rain. Fair weather prevailed the next day as the area of high pressure gained control.

When residing in Chicago I noticed sometimes, especially in the spring, that heavy rains fell from large cumulo-nimbus clouds which were coming from the southwest, while the surface wind was cool and northeasterly. At the same time hot, clear weather was prevailing with southerly winds a few hundred miles to the south, as shown on the weather maps. This seems to apply more to where a well-developed "high" causes cool, northerly winds to flow into a region of stagnant air and not so much as to where a well-defined "low" passes, for then the rains occur in the east and southerly winds in the front more so than after the north winds on the rear set in.

Maybe you are very well acquainted with the above conditions, but I thought no harm could result from my mentioning them.

Very truly, yours,

(Signed) DOUGLAS F. MANNING

NOTES.

CLIMATE OF PRINCE GEORGES COUNTY, MD.

In a very comprehensive history of the Physical Features of Prince Georges County, Md., recently issued by the Maryland Geological Survey, is an important chapter on the climate of that county, prepared by Mr. W. H. Alexander, section director, Weather Bureau, at Baltimore. This is one of a series of reports which it is intended shall cover each county of the State. Six of these have now been issued, each containing a chapter on the climate of the respective county.

In addition, there has been issued by the State a General Sketch of the Climate of the State, by Prof. F. J. Walz, of the Weather Bureau, and a very comprehensive report on the Weather and Climate of Baltimore, by Dr. Oliver L. Fassig, also of the Weather Bureau.

When all these reports have been collected and printed they will form a unique and invaluable summary of meteorological information for that State.